

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2013**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Joanne Drapeau  
Barbara Sherman  
Tom Talamini

Al Floyd  
Dick Sherman

Ray Jones  
Dick Sullivan

Lois Noble  
Deb Talamini

**ABSENT:**

Alan Baker  
Jim Halloran

John Drake

Ken Francis

Albert Grant

**Guest: John Burnham**

**1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:06 PM**

**2. MINUTES** of Regular February 21, 2012 Meeting: **Approved** with 2 abstentions. Note that the Agenda incorrectly called for the Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 17<sup>th</sup> not the February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**3. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS: New Business 5f. Community Day / Cardboard Boat Race  
5.g. Change in Member Status / Vacancy**

**4. ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. River Review – No ice has been seen in the river. A large clump of about 5 trees were spotted down in the Melrose Bridge area. Trail too muddy to get good look in several places. Member Ray Jones noted that the town Highway Department was doing work at the filter bed area.
- b. Water testing – Conditions have improved and testing has resumed, include South Windsor section.
- c. Scantic River State Park Trail – No report on new trail development.
- d. Work Party – On March 9<sup>th</sup> date, work was snowed out. Volunteers did show up but most of the time was spent in planning sessions.
- e. Window decals – No new sales.
- f. Patch Blog – No submission.

**5. New Business**

- a. Work Party - Conditions are not great for a current event. Next on schedule will be April 27, with more details firmed up at next meeting
- b. SRWA – Date for Spring Splash is March 30th. All hands welcome as the regulars, Albie and Dick, have family commitments for that date.
- c. New CFPA email – This communication was received asking that we reach out to our congressmen looking for support for the state parks in our towns. Our 3 were contacted and response came back from Senator Gary LeBeau and Rep. Chris' aide said he personally signed on as a sponsor.
- d. New Grant - Chairman Dick Sherman hand-delivered the grant to Laurie Giannotti, who accepted it.

At the same time, he requested the name of the contact in Shenipsit State Park who could provide lumber for the 2 needed kiosks.

- e. Earth Day – Slated for April 27. Jennifer Pardi of Big Y in East Windsor contacted the chair. He asked the members if they wanted to plan the work party around a river clean-up and see if the employees of Big Y wanted to assist. They agreed and he will make the contact, and check on liability issues.

**5. f. Community Day** – Member Deb Talamini reminded all that the town event was May 11<sup>th</sup> and asked if we planned on having the tent/table and perhaps having a float to advertise our cardboard boat race. All agreed and the matter will be discussed at future meetings.

**5.g. Vacancy** – Attention was called to the fact that Alternate Dick Sullivan resigned at that position and Applied and has become a regular Member. That said, we have a vacancy. Discussion took place as to the procedure to fill the position being that anyone can send a letter requesting to be placed on a Board or Commission. It is then up to the Board of Selectmen to do the selecting. Since it is a spot as an Alternate, the letter should be to become an Alternate as that is the opening currently. All application letters must have 3 names as references.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** John Burnham spoke and wanted it in the minutes that he was still very involved in the AHRC and its activities on the river. John's resignation from the Commission was due to the state statute prohibiting a member of any Authority to also be an official member of a board or commission. It will not stop his volunteer activities on behalf of the Scantic River, which he feels passionate about encouraging continued efforts in its development as a source of recreation for our town.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman – 3/25/2013